



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # **006-2011**

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: January 6, 2011

SUBJECT: FDOT Construction Projects in Miami Beach

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CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

The purpose of this Letter to Commission (LTC) is to provide you with an update on the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) and Miami-Dade County's (County) current and upcoming construction projects in and around Miami Beach.

Current Projects

Port of Miami Tunnel Project

According to the December 2010 Port of Miami Tunnel (POMT) Progress Report, the design and construction phases of the POMT Project are moving forward as scheduled (Attachment 1). The Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) is currently being designed and fabricated, and assembly began during the first week of October 2010. The TBM is expected to arrive to the project in May 2011.

FDOT has reported that during a Palm-Hibiscus-Star Island homeowner's association meeting, a concern was brought up to FDOT regarding the current roadway conditions on westbound MacArthur Causeway. A portion of the outside westbound travel lane has been temporarily repaved; however, in response to this concern, the concessionaires/contractor will be placing a temporary asphalt overlay on both the eastbound and westbound lanes. The contractor is currently finalizing the schedule and maintenance of traffic for the temporary asphalt overlay work, and estimates that this work will begin within the next few weeks. At this time, it is anticipated that the final restoration of the lanes will occur toward the end of the project's completion date. City staff will closely coordinate with FDOT to ensure this work does not conflict with any special events, such as Art Deco Weekend, as well as with any other construction projects in Miami Beach.

All other major upcoming work in the next year will occur underneath the MacArthur Causeway and any anticipated lane closures will have minimal impact to traffic.

In response to the City's concerns regarding the consideration of impacts to traffic as a result of future developments in the vicinity of the POMT project, FDOT has confirmed that the POMT traffic analysis study included projected traffic from the proposed Island Gardens Development. FDOT has assured the City that the following conclusions of the Island Gardens Major Use Special Permit Traffic Impact Study, conducted by David Plummer and Associates in April 2004, are still valid and are as follows:

1. The Flagstone development is included in the 2030 projections in the regional model; and
2. There is enough capacity on MacArthur Causeway to absorb the projected daily volumes from the proposed development.

Collins Avenue, 63rd to 75th Street Roadway Project

FDOT advanced the paving work on Collins Avenue, from 63rd Street to 75th Street, which began on December 20 – 23, 2010. Remaining paving work resumed on January 3, 2010 and is estimated to be completed by January 6, 2011. The advancement of this work was necessary in order to adhere to the

scheduled completion date in March 2011.

In response to complaints from residents and businesses, the consultant for FDOT met with City staff to review the work plan for paving operations. At this meeting, it was determined that single lane closures would occur during daylight hours and any two lane closures would occur during the nighttime hours, from 10:00 p.m. until 7:30 a.m. The following provides the schedule for the work that will occur today.

Thursday, January 6, 2011

- During daylight hours, sidewalk work may take place using single lane closures.
- During nighttime hours, from 10:00 pm until 7:30 am the following morning, one lane will be closed to complete the east lane (milled and structural asphalt layer) and east side streets from 69th – 75th Streets.

After the above mentioned work is completed, the contractor and utilities companies will conduct valve adjustments, after which the contractor will install the final layer of asphalt. The final layer of asphalt will take approximately five (5) days to install and will require up to two (2) travel lanes to be closed during non-peak hours only. Remaining work will include pedestrian improvements, signage, sidewalk repairs, and landscaping, which should not require two (2) travel lanes to be closed.

FDOT will continue to distribute notifications of construction activities to impacted residents and businesses, and will also continue to use variable message signs to notify motorists of the upcoming work.

SR 112 / I-195 Roadway Project

The westbound I-195 exit ramp to northbound I-95 will be closed on January 5, 2011, and January 6, 2011, between 9:00 p.m. and 5:30 a.m., and on Saturday, January 8, 2011 from 12:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. During this closure, FDOT will be performing restriping work and will be installing a temporary barrier wall. Motorists traveling west on I-195 will be guided to exit south on I-95, exit at NW 8 Street, and then make a u-turn to proceed north on I-95.

Through May 2012, the contractor will be widening the roadway, which will result in the intermittent partial closure of eastbound and westbound traffic between SR 9A/I-95/NW 10 Avenue and Biscayne Bay as follows:

Single lane closures

- 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. – Sunday through Thursday
- 9 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. – Monday through Thursday
- 12 a.m. to 9 a.m. – Friday
- 12 a.m. to 10 a.m. – Saturday
- 12 a.m. to 5:30 a.m. – Sunday

Dual lane closures (contractor may reduce traffic to one lane only)

- 12 a.m. to 5:30 a.m. – Monday through Thursday
- 2 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. – Friday and Saturday
- 2 a.m. to 5:30 a.m. – Sunday

Upcoming Construction Projects

As previously reported in the November 15, 2010 LTC, in January 2011 the County will be starting construction on a streetscape project on the Venetian Causeway, from Biscayne Island in Miami to Belle Isle in Miami Beach. The County has confirmed that they will coordinate any anticipated closures with the City ahead of time.

Mill and Resurface 71st Street and Normandy Drive

FDOT has upcoming construction projects along 71st Street and Normandy Drive, from West Bay Road to Collins Avenue, scheduled to begin on January 10, 2011 and completed in October 2011. The roadway improvements will include the following: milling and resurfacing, bike lanes, minor drainage improvements, pedestrian improvements, the conversion of Rue Vendome to a one-way street, and new traffic signals at 71st Street and Rue Vendome. FDOT will be distributing project fact sheets for the 71st Street and Normandy Drive projects to impacted residents and businesses within the next week.

From January to March 2011, there will be an overlap between the Collins Avenue, from 63rd to 75th Streets project and the 71st Street and Normandy Drive projects. The FDOT Project Administrator for both projects is Anthony Sabbag, and he has assured the City that construction activities for these projects will not conflict with one another. Additionally, the advanced schedule for the Collins Avenue project will help to ensure that all major paving work is completed prior to any major work beginning on 71st Street and Normandy Drive.

Mill and Resurface 5th Street

FDOT also has a construction project on 5th Street, from West Avenue to Collins Avenue scheduled to begin on April 25, 2011 and completed in November 2011. The roadway improvements will include the following: milling and resurfacing, replacement of damaged sidewalks and curb and gutters, upgrades to pedestrian ramps to comply with ADA standards, the installation of countdown and audible pedestrian signals, and the implementation of safety recommendations. FDOT will closely coordinate the construction schedule with the City, and has been coordinating with the Capital Improvements Program Office for the South Pointe Phases III, IV, and V Construction Project.

Project Coordination

City staff will be coordinating the Maintenance of Traffic plans for all construction projects with both FDOT and the County. Monthly coordination meetings with FDOT and the County have been occurring, and the next meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 14, 2011. City staff will be closely coordinating all construction activities with FDOT, the County, and their contractors during these construction projects, and will keep you informed on all aspects.

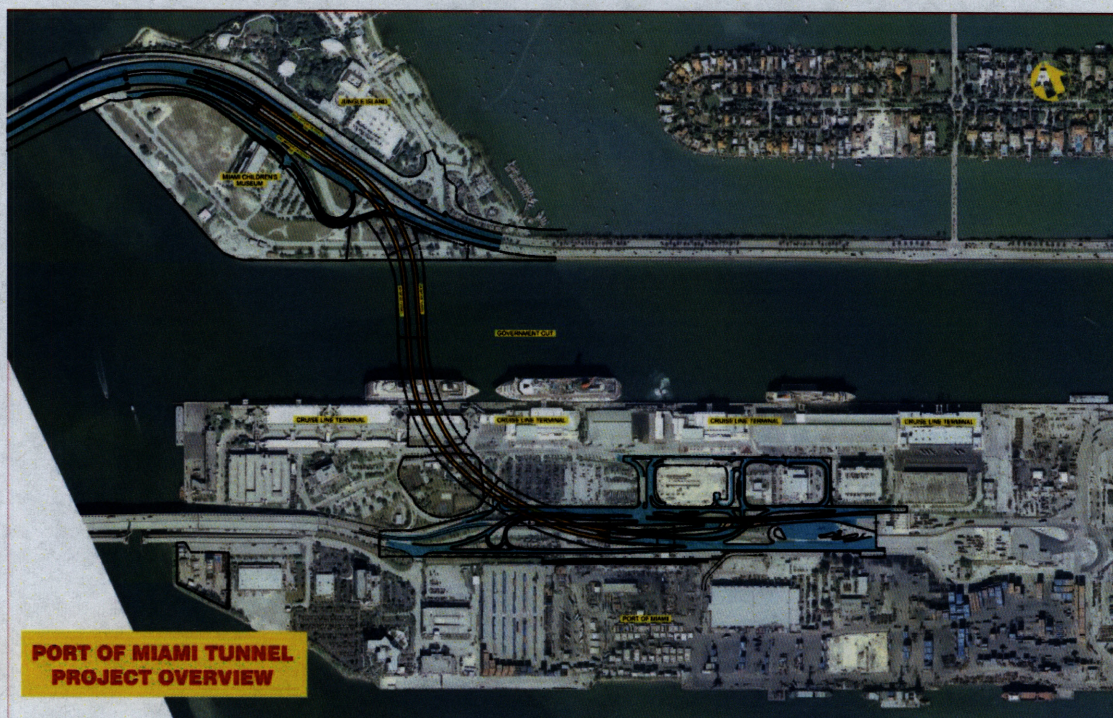
Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Attachments:

1. December 2010 POMT Progress Report


JGC/PHB/PV/RS/CB

POMT Progress Report – December 2010



NOTICE TO PROCEED #1 – DESIGN	OCT 15, 2009	CONCESSION AGREEMENT:	35 YEARS
NOTICE TO PROCEED #2 - CONSTRUCTION	MAY 24, 2010	DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION DURATION:	55 MONTHS
PROJECTED CONSTRUCTION SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION	MAY 15, 2014	CONCESSIONAIRE:	MAT CONCESSIONAIRE, LLC
CONSTRUCTION COST:	\$607,000,000	DESIGN/BUILD CONTRACTOR:	BOUYGUES CIVIL WORKS FLORIDA (BCWF)
MILESTONE PAYMENTS DURING CONSTRUCTION:	\$100,000,000	OPERATOR / MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR:	TRANSFIELD / VMS
MILESTONE PAYMENT AT FINAL ACCEPTANCE:	\$350,000,000	FDOT OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE & CEI:	PB AMERICAS

CURRENT MAJOR ACTIVITIES:

Design:

Watson Island

Final plans for Parrot Jungle Trail, MacArthur Causeway Roadway, Retaining Walls and Drilled Shafts have been released for construction. Design efforts continue on the MacArthur Causeway Bridge widening and 60% plans have been submitted and are under review by the Department. Support of Excavation Final plans were submitted and reviewed by the Department; comment resolution is pending. In addition, the Tunnel Lining (90%) plans have also been submitted for review. Review and comment resolution meetings are on-going. The geotechnical exploration work as part of the design phase on Watson Island

has been completed. A revised Master Signage Plan for the overall project was submitted to the Department for review during the 3rd week of December and coordination meetings will follow in January.

Dodge Island

Contractor submitted (90%) plans of Package #3 and Final Package #1 and #2 plans for the Dodge Island Roadways which includes early utility relocation work and drainage along the southern project limits. In addition, the Support of Excavation (90%) Plans and Cut & Cover Tunnel Plans as well as (60%) ITS, Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing Plans have been received and are currently under review by the Department. The soil and utility investigation work is still on-going on Dodge Island. In addition, geotechnical exploration in the channel was completed during the second week of December.

Construction:

Contractor completed the drilled shaft construction for the MacArthur Causeway Eastbound Bridge widening in late December. In addition, the contractor completed the Type II tension elements in the Support of Excavation area on Watson Island. Contractor continued working on the Concrete Soil Mix (CSM) flood wall cap and beam.

Contractor is still in the process of obtaining the site installation permits on Watson Island for the tunnel support operations (water treatment plant, the concrete batch plant, cooling system and power system) which will all be located under the MacArthur Causeway Bridge.

Contractor mobilized and performed the demolition of the existing Old Port Gate canopy and booths on Dodge Island.

The Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) is currently being designed and fabricated, and early assembly began during the first week of October 2010. The TBM machine is expected to arrive to the project in June 2011. Contractor continues to work on the temporary electrical service point that will supply power to the TBM on Watson Island.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH / RECRUITMENT EFFORTS:

The Concessionaire continues a vigorous outreach and recruitment effort to secure contractors and suppliers throughout Miami-Dade County. On December 1st at the Port of Miami, the Concessionaire sponsored a Contractor/Vendor Expo "Operation 305", that attracted more than 300 local certified businesses. All information about all opportunities was presented as well as a staffed help desk to assist any potential bidder. To date over 100 contracts and purchase orders with local companies and suppliers have been signed. In addition, local DBE efforts remain strong and the Concessionaire served as the keynote speaker and presenter to the Miami-Dade Minority Chamber on December 20th.

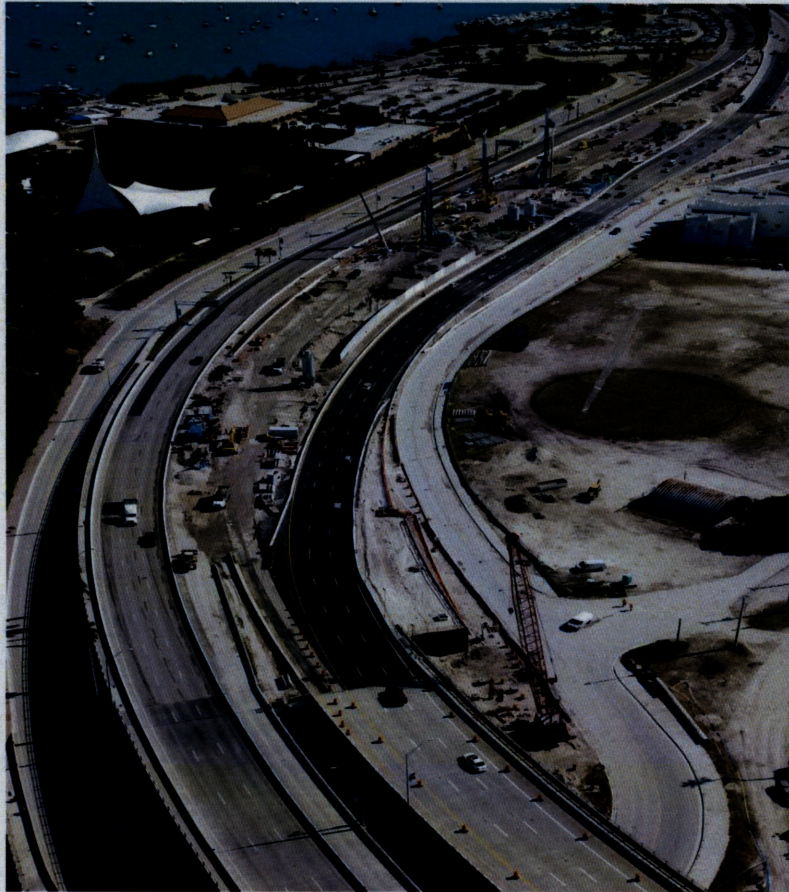
On December 20th, the Contractor began recruitment efforts for the following positions: 2 Heavy Equipment Operators, 1 Carpenter, 3 Common Laborers, 1 Concrete Mixer, and 1 Crane Oiler and posted said positions with all 34 agencies that are in their outreach program.

UPCOMING MAJOR ACTIVITIES:

The Contractor will continue to work on CSM shafts and Type I tie-downs for support of excavation on the TBM launching pit on Watson Island and will commence the water and sewer work as well. In addition, the Contractor is expected to begin the installation of the communications duct bank and initial utility relocation work on Dodge Island as per Package #1 plans. It is also anticipated that the contractor will begin the drainage work as well as demolition of the railroad on Dodge Island and complete the demolition of the Old Port Gate.

PROJECTED COMMUNITY OUTREACH / RECRUITMENT EFFORTS:

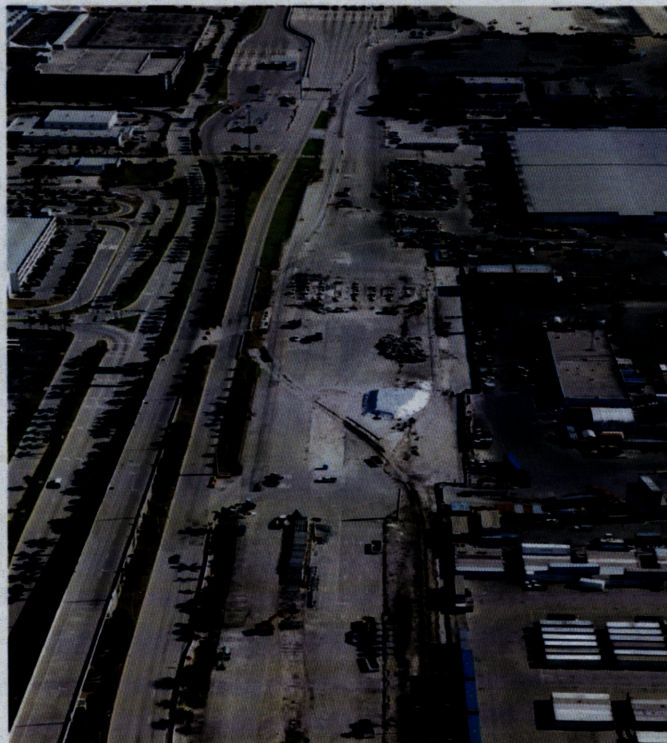
The Contractor began reviewing the resumes obtained and selected from all job fairs, resumes received online and resumes forwarded by South Florida Workforce. Interviews will begin in the first week of January. All candidates should be selected and start working by the end of January, 2011.



MacArthur Causeway Aerial – New Eastbound Lanes (12-24-10)



Watson Island – New Parrot Jungle Trail & New Eastbound Lanes on MacArthur Causeway & Support of Excavation Work (12-24-10)



Dodge Island – Roadways / Old Port Gate (12-24-10)